House File 245 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 245

BY STAED, KRESSIG,

BROWN-POWERS, MASCHER,

STECKMAN, WOLFE, DONAHUE,

ANDERSON, JACOBY, KURTH,

and EHLERT

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act requiring school districts to adopt a child sexual
- 2 abuse prevention instructional program for students in
- 3 kindergarten through grade twelve.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 279.50B Child sexual abuse
- 2 prevention instructional program.
- 3 l. The board of directors of each school district
- 4 shall adopt and implement a child sexual abuse prevention
- 5 instructional program for students in kindergarten through
- 6 grade twelve. The program shall include all of the following:
- 7 a. Developmentally appropriate, culturally sensitive, and
- 8 evidence-based instruction for each grade level.
- 9 b. A minimum of four instructional sessions per school year,
- 10 with each year's instruction building on the previous year's
- ll instruction.
- 12 c. Age-appropriate curriculum including role-playing,
- 13 discussion, activities, and books to educate students regarding
- 14 child sexual abuse prevention.
- 15 d. Instruction providing students with the knowledge and
- 16 tools to communicate incidents of sexual abuse.
- 17 e. Instruction regarding safe touch, unsafe touch, safe
- 18 secrets, and unsafe secrets, and how to escape and report a
- 19 sexual abuse situation.
- 20 f. Techniques to recognize child sexual abuse, skills to
- 21 reduce vulnerability, and encouragement to report child sexual
- 22 abuse.
- 23 q. An evaluation component with measurable outcomes.
- 24 h. A professional training component for administrators,
- 25 teachers, and other school personnel regarding communicating
- 26 child sexual abuse prevention techniques to students, effects
- 27 of child sexual abuse on children, receiving child sexual abuse
- 28 reports and disclosures, and mandated reporting.
- 29 i. A parental involvement component to inform parents
- 30 about child sexual abuse topics, including characteristics of
- 31 offenders, grooming behaviors, and how to discuss child sexual
- 32 abuse prevention with children.
- 33 2. Program instruction may be delivered by instructors
- 34 including practitioners, school counselors, and outside agency
- 35 prevention educators, provided the instructors have knowledge

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1 of and training in child sexual abuse prevention.

- 2 Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
- 3 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
- 4 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
- 5 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
- 6 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
- 7 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
- 8 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
- 9 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
- 10 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
- 11 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
- 12 districts.
- 13 EXPLANATION
- 14 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
- the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 16 This bill requires the board of directors of each school
- 17 district to adopt and implement a child sexual abuse prevention
- 18 instructional program for students in kindergarten through
- 19 grade 12.
- The program shall include developmentally appropriate,
- 21 culturally sensitive, and evidence-based instruction; a minimum
- 22 of four instructional sessions per school year, with each
- 23 year's instruction building on the previous year's instruction;
- 24 age-appropriate curriculum including role-playing, discussion,
- 25 activities, and books to educate students regarding child
- 26 sexual abuse prevention; instruction providing students with
- 27 the knowledge and tools to communicate incidents of sexual
- 28 abuse; instruction in how to recognize, escape, and report
- 29 sexual abuse; skills to reduce vulnerability and encouragement
- 30 to report child sexual abuse; an evaluation component with
- 31 measurable outcomes; a professional training component for
- 32 school personnel; and a parental involvement component to
- 33 inform parents about child sexual abuse topics.
- 34 Program instruction may be delivered by practitioners,
- 35 school counselors, and outside agency prevention educators,

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- 1 provided the instructors have knowledge of and training in
- 2 child sexual abuse prevention.
- 3 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
- 4 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
- 5 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
- 6 district from state school foundation aid received by the
- 7 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
- 8 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
- 9 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
- 10 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
- 11 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
- 12 mandates included in the bill.